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# Computers

## EIGHTH GRADE

**Computer  
Science  
Department**

**Teacher:** Nick Vigo  
**Phone:** 503-644-3745 (Main Number)  
**E-mail:** nvigo@valleycatholic.org

**Required Textbooks:** *\$30.00 computer lab fee*

### **Course Description:**

Eighth grade computer skills are taught twice weekly in computer class, as well as integrated with other academic subjects. Computer class includes Web 2.0 features as well as integrating MS Office 2007 skills into relevant topics for today's students. Technology skills will be covered in thematic units.

### **Class Scope and Sequence:**

#### **Skills Taught in Class**

##### **Digital Citizenship**

- Online safety
- Web 2.0: blogs, social networking, photo/video sharing, email
- Google Apps for Education

##### **Research and Information Fluency**

- Career Research
- Social bookmarking
- Searching techniques
- RSS, wikis, blogs

##### **Creativity & Innovation**

- Online publishing
- Asynchronous debates with VoiceThread
- Postcards & Google Maps / Earth
- Digital Portfolios

##### **Critical thinking, Problem Solving, and Decision making using Excel Data**

- Spreadsheet formatting
- Formulas & Functions
- Graphs

##### **Digital Storytelling**

- Video Editing
- Photoshop
- Storyboarding
- Keyboarding fluency

##### **Microsoft PowerPoint 2007**

- Slide master design
- Custom Animation
- Integrating audio & video



# Language Arts

## Eighth Grade

**English  
Department  
2009-2010**

**Teacher:** Joe Manning  
**Phone:** 503-644-3745 Main Office  
**E-mail:** [jmanning@valleycatholic.org](mailto:jmanning@valleycatholic.org)

**Required textbooks:**

*English 8, Houghton Mifflin and Vocabulary Enricher – Level C, Sadlier-Oxford.*

**Novels:**

*The Diary of Anne Frank* by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett      *The House of the Scorpion* by Nancy Farmer      *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho  
*Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck      *Night* by Elie Wiesel      *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

**Supplemental Programs/Materials:**

*Participation in Valley Catholic Middle School Speech Tournament*

**Course Description:**

English 8 allows students to continue to develop readers, writers, and speakers. Building upon language arts skills learned prior to this course, students are expected to give their full effort to improve their vocabulary, reading, writing, grammar, and speaking. Further, they'll see and engage in real-world application of these skills and come to know learning as a means to some other end, not as an end in itself.

**Class Scope and Sequence:**

	Literature	Literature Concepts	Writing	Grammar	Vocabulary
<b>Unit One</b>	<i>Day of Tears</i>	Extended metaphor, imagery, and dialect	Literary analysis, thesis, topic sentences	Diagramming review	Latin and Greek roots
<b>Unit Two</b>	Short stories	Connections and genres	Five-paragraph essay, descriptive paragraph	Types of sentences, subordinate clauses	Grade level vocabulary
<b>Unit Three</b>	<i>The Diary of Anne Frank</i> (play) and <i>Night</i>	Historical context and conflict	Literary analysis	Nouns	Grade level vocabulary
<b>Unit Four</b>	Short stories	Point of view, irony, mood, and tone	Short story	Sentence variety, active/passive voice, quotations	Grade level vocabulary
<b>Unit Five</b>	<i>Of Mice and Men</i>	Characterization, conflict, and dialect	Opinion	Clauses, appositives, gerunds, infinitives	Grade level vocabulary
<b>Unit Six</b>	<i>The Alchemist</i>	Static/dynamic characters, symbolism, parable, theme	Reflections	Modifiers and parallelism	Grade level vocabulary
<b>Unit Seven</b>	Poetry	Sound devices and figurative language	Poetry	Verbs	Grade level vocabulary
<b>Unit Eight</b>	<i>The House of the Scorpion</i>	Characterization, subplots, parallel episodes, theme	Persuasive	Review	Grade level vocabulary



# Speech

## Eighth Grade

**English and  
Middle School  
Departments  
2009-2010**

**Teacher:** Joe Manning and Jennifer Gfroerer  
**Phone:** 503-644-3745 or 503-520-4703 (Direct Line)  
**E-mail:** [jmanning@valleycatholic.org](mailto:jmanning@valleycatholic.org) or [jgfroerer@valleycatholic.org](mailto:jgfroerer@valleycatholic.org)

**Required textbooks:** None

### **Course Description:**

Speech skills are taught within the English and Study Skills classes, small group practice sessions, as well as through integration within the other academic subjects. Students learn the basic elements for giving presentations as well as specific training for Valley Catholic Middle School's Annual Speech Tournament.

### **Picking a Speech**

- Humorous Speech
- Serious Speech
- Patriotic Speech (8<sup>th</sup> grade only)

### **Tips for Giving Speeches**

- Body Language
- Hands
- Posture
- Feet
- Eye Contact

### **Elocution**

- Finding a Piece
- Memorization Techniques
- Delivery
- Interpretation of Author's Meaning

### **Extemporaneous**

- Sample the Content
- Author's Purpose
- Use of Language Cues
- Technique
- Focus
- Cadence

### **Impromptu**

- Use of Topic
- Developing the Speech
- First Line Prompts
- Topics as Metaphors
- Compare/Contrast points
- Perspectives
- Use of Humor

For over 40 years, Valley Catholic Middle School has hosted an Annual Speech Tournament in late February/early March. Over 400 students compete each year for trophies and scholarships that are applied toward tuition at any Catholic high school within the Archdiocese of Portland. Members of Toastmasters and members of the community serve as judges for elocution, extemporaneous reading and impromptu speeches. All Valley Catholic Middle Students compete in the Speech Tournament.



# MS Music - Band

Eighth Grade

**Fine Arts  
Department  
2009-2010**

**Teacher:** Dan Schauffler  
**Phone:** 503-644-3745 (Main Number)  
**E-mail:** dschauffler@valleycatholic.org

## Required Textbooks:

*Standard of Excellence: A Comprehensive Band Method Book* – Neil A. Kgos

## Supplemental Programs/Materials:

Alfred's Music Theory Computer Program

## Course Description:

The goals of this class are to build the playing fundamentals and musical skills of all members. Rehearsal time will be spent on music methods, theory, scales, rhythms, and learning each musician's instrument. Difficult sections of Concert Band and Pep Band music will be reviewed. The Pep Band supports the school's sports teams at home games. Opportunities are provided for public performance.

### Unit One:

- Traditional 20<sup>th</sup> Century and Pop Band Literature

### Unit Two:

- Sight-reading

### Unit Three:

- Instrumental Technique

### Unit Four:

- Theory

### Unit Five:

- Historical Context

### Unit Six:

- Evaluation; test, research
- Appreciation

## Music Appreciation:

Music appreciation based on the literature performed, and, through required quarter reports on specified composers and current musical personalities, and on live or TV classical concerts.

## Concert Requirements:

Students will have the opportunity to perform in two school sponsored concerts, one in December and one in May/June. Students are required to participate in the school concerts. Additional performances and/or competitions may be announced later in the school year.

## Music Uniform:

- **Shirt:** Long sleeve light blue oxford shirt with VCMS logo (Either the Valiant or dome logo is acceptable)
- **Pants:** Navy blue uniform pants (capris, shorts, skirts, skorts are not acceptable)
- **Tie:** Dennis uniform navy blue cross ties for girls and navy blue clip or regular ties for boys



# MS Music - Choir

Eighth Grade

**Fine Arts  
Department  
2009-2010**

**Teacher:** Sr. Juliana Monte  
**Phone:** 503-520-4706 (direct)  
**E-mail:** srjulianam@valleycatholic.org

## **Required Textbooks:**

*Alfred Music Theory* books 1 and 2  
Staff Book

## **Supplemental Programs/Materials:**

*Alfred's Music Theory* Computer Program  
*Successful Warm-Ups* – Telfir  
*Patterns in Performance* – Hal Leonard

## **Course Description:**

This course covers fundamentals of music, voice production, sight-reading, and familiarity with the masterpieces of choral literature. Singing in trios and in small ensembles also encourages growth. Opportunities are provided for public performances.

### **Unit One:**

- Sight-Singing

### **Unit Two:**

- Vocal Warm-ups

### **Unit Three:**

- Theory: Music Fundamentals

### **Unit Four:**

- Ear Training Dictation

### **Unit Five:**

- Unison, 2,3,and 4 Part Music

### **Unit Six:**

- Music Appreciation through the Literature
- Use of Latin, German, Italian, and French texts when appropriate

### **Unit Seven:**

- Small Ensemble experience (quartets singing & testing)

## **Concert Requirements:**

Students will have the opportunity to perform in two school sponsored concerts, one in December and one in May/June. Students are required to participate in the school concerts. Additional performances and/or competitions may be announced later in the school year.

## **Music Uniform:**

- **Shirt:** Long sleeve light blue oxford shirt with VCMS logo (Either the Valiant or dome logo is acceptable)
- **Pants:** Navy blue uniform pants (capris, shorts, skirts, skorts are not acceptable)
- **Tie:** Dennis uniform navy blue cross ties for girls and navy blue clip or regular ties for boys



# MS Music - Orchestra

Eighth Grade

**Fine Arts  
Department  
2009-2010**

**Teacher:** Travis Hatton  
**Phone:** 503-644-3745 (Main Number)  
**E-mail:** thatton@valleycatholic.org

**Required Textbooks:** None

## **Supplemental Programs/Materials:**

*Alfred's Music Theory* Computer Program

## **Course Description:**

The students in this course are instructed in orchestral techniques and in music fundamentals. The objectives include the spiritual, musical, aesthetic, cultural, and social growth of each individual through participation in this musical group as well as an increase in love and knowledge of music. Opportunities are provided for public performance.

### **Unit One:**

- Scales and warm-ups

### **Unit Two:**

- Theory – taught in class and through computer lab assignments

### **Unit Three:**

- Sight-reading practice

### **Unit Four:**

- Basic analysis

### **Unit Five:**

- Ensemble playing taught through the selected literature, stressing expression, musicality, technical accuracy, and precision

## **Music Appreciation:**

Music appreciation based on the literature performed, and, through required quarter reports on specified composers and current musical personalities, and on live or TV classical concerts.

## **Concert Requirements:**

Students will have the opportunity to perform in two school sponsored concerts, one in December and one in May/June. Students are required to participate in the school concerts. Additional performances and/or competitions may be announced later in the school year.

## **Music Uniform:**

- **Shirt:** Long sleeve light blue oxford shirt with VCMS logo (Either the Valiant or dome logo is acceptable)
- **Pants:** Navy blue uniform pants (capris, shorts, skirts, skorts are not acceptable)
- **Tie:** Dennis uniform navy blue cross ties for girls and navy blue clip or regular ties for boys



# French I

Eighth Grade – High School Level Class

**Foreign  
Language  
Department  
2009-2010**

**Teacher:** Susan Miller  
**Phone:** 503-644-3745 (Main Number)  
**E-mail:** smiller@valleycatholic.org

**Required textbooks:** *Bienvenue*

## Course Description:

The aim of French I is to make the student comfortable with the differences between English and French pronunciation and sentence structures while building an appreciation for the culture of the French people. Students will learn basic essential vocabulary for describing themselves and others, their homes and communities, and expressing their needs and feelings. Students will be introduced to French history, geography, cooking, shopping, holidays, and films. Students will begin to speak, read, write, and understand a variety of simple sentences necessary for daily life in a francophone country with emphasis on Poitiers, Paris and Arles in France; the Cote d'Ivoire in western Africa; and La Martinique in the Caribbean.

## Class Scope and Sequence:

### Unit One:

- Alphabet, Pronunciation, Genders
- Greetings, Definite and Indefinite Articles
- Concept of Conjugating Verb
- Adjectives to Describe People

### Unit Two:

- Halloween Vocabulary
- Masculine, Feminine, Plural Forms
- Placement with Respects to Nouns
- Irregular Verb "etre"
- Differences Between "C'est, Ce sont, voila and Il y a"
- School Supplies, Demonstrative Adjectives

### Unit Three:

- Thanksgiving Activities
- Adjective Location, Indefinite Pronouns
- Idioms with Avoir
- Vocabulary Associated with the Home
- Use of "il y a"
- Definite vs. Indefinite Articles
- Telling Time, Using Money, Metric System,
- Numbers to 100
- Weather, Months, Seasons, Years

### Unit Four:

- Christmas and Nature Vocabulary
- Paris, Cafes and Ordering Food
- Verb "prendre," Imperative Verb Forms
- Going Out with Friends
- "future proche"
- Verbs "aller" and "vouloir"

### Unit Five:

- Irregular Verb "faire" and Idioms
- Clothing and Shopping, Sizes, Colors, Description of Clothes
- "mettre, porter, acheter, choisir"
- French and America Cities
- Object Pronouns "le, la, l' les, y, en"
- "re" Verbs, Object Pronouns

### Unit Six:

- The Calendar, Holidays Celebrated in France, Dates
- Expressing Opinions
- Partitives, Verb pouvoir, "en,"
- Meals, Food and Shopping
- "avoir besoin de"
- Describing People and Family, Ages
- Verb etre, Possession

\*\*Eighth grade students may choose to take classes in French, Japanese, Spanish, or study skills. The high school staff teaches foreign language classes. The classes are first-year courses offered by Valley Catholic High School. If a student decides to take a foreign language class in eighth grade, he or she may have the opportunity to take up to a fifth year of foreign language in high school.



**Foreign  
Language  
Department  
2009-2010**

# Japanese I

Eighth Grade – High School Level Class

**Teacher:** Yoko Miwa-Cook  
**Phone:** 503-644-3745 (Main Number)  
**E-mail:** ymiwa@valleycatholic.org

## Required textbooks:

*Adventures in Japanese I*  
*Adventures in Japanese I workbook*

## Course Description:

This is an introductory course to develop basic Japanese conversational skills with emphasis on listening and speaking. Students will learn sentence structures and natural pronunciation. Also the "hiragana" and "katakana" writing systems will be introduced including typing on the computer. In addition, students will have the opportunity to learn various aspects of Japanese culture, such as origami, calligraphy, technology, Japanese food-tasting, and local field trips.

## Class Scope and Sequence:

### Unit One: Greeting

- Weather and Temperature
- Telephone Interaction
- Useful Greetings

### Unit Two: Self-Introduction

- Meeting for the First Time
- Cultural Awareness: Body Language
- Numbers 1 - 100

### Unit Three: Daily Events

- 24 Core Verbs
- Telling/Asking Daily Events

### Unit Four: School

- Classroom Objects
- Age and Grades

### Unit Five: Family

- Family Terms
- Occupations
- Nationalities

### Unit Six: Hobbies

- Sports
- Colors
- Telling Frequency

\*\*Eighth grade students may choose to take classes in French, Japanese, Spanish, or study skills. The high school staff teaches foreign language classes. The classes are first-year courses offered by Valley Catholic High School. If a student decides to take a foreign language class in eighth grade, he or she may have the opportunity to take up to a fifth year of foreign language in high school.



**Foreign  
Language  
Department  
2009-2010**

# Spanish I

Eighth Grade – High School Level Class

**Teacher:** Nenita Navarro  
**Phone:** 503-644-3745 (Main Number)  
**E-mail:** nnavarro@valleycatholic.org

## Required textbooks:

*Descubre Level I text*  
*Descubre Level I Practica*  
*Descubre Level I Actividades*

## Course Description:

In this introductory course the students learn the basic Spanish vocabulary to describe themselves and others and to express their needs. They learn to manipulate verbs in the present and future tenses and in the past tense, to a lesser extent.

They will also learn to appreciate cultural and geographical characteristics of the Spanish speaking world.

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to do the following:

### Hola, Que Tal

- Greetings and leave-taking
- Identifying yourself and others
- Expression of Courtesy

### La Familia

- The Family
- Identifying People
- Professions and Occupations

### Las Vacaciones

Travel and Vacation  
Months of the Year  
Seasons and weather  
Ordinal numbers

### En la clase

- The classroom and school life
- Fields of Study and School Objects
- Days of the Week
- Class Schedules

### Los Pasatiempos

- Pastimes
- Sports
- Places in the City

### De Compras

- Clothing and Shopping
- Negotiating a Price and Buying
- Colors
- More Adjectives

\*\*Eighth grade students may choose to take classes in French, Japanese, Spanish, or study skills. The high school staff teaches foreign language classes. The classes are first-year courses offered by Valley Catholic High School. If a student decides to take a foreign language class in eighth grade, he or she may have the opportunity to take up to a fifth year of foreign language in high school.



# Health and Physical Education

Eighth Grade

**Health/PE  
Department  
2009-2010**

**Teacher:** Herb Lommen  
**Phone:** 503-520-4718 (direct)  
**E-mail:** hlommen@valleycatholic.org

## **Required Textbook:**

*Teen Health – Course 3*, Glencoe McGraw-Hill 2009

## **Supplemental Programs/Materials:**

*American Red Cross Adult/Child/Infant First Aide, CPR, AED* training book, video, and skill cards

## **Course Description**

The class will introduce the students to the structure and functions of their body systems. Students will explore healthy lifestyles and the effects of disease and disabilities on the body. Students will learn about physical fitness and how to develop a program to improve their own fitness level.

### **Unit One: PE**

- Tennis
- Lacrosse

### **Unit One: Health**

- Adult, Child & Infant CPR/AED
- First Aid

### **Unit Two: PE**

- Conditioning
- Movement to music

### **Unit Two: Health**

- Disease
- Disability

### **Unit Three: PE**

- Weight training
- Fitness

### **Unit Three: Health**

- Health Care
- Mental Health

### **Unit Four: PE**

- Volleyball
- Football codes
- Minor games

### **Unit Four: Health**

- Family Life

Health will start in October and finish in the middle of May. Classes will be every Monday and Wednesday in place of Physical Education.



# Algebra One

## Eighth Grade

**Math  
Department  
2009-2010**

**Teacher:** Mr. Brunecz and Mrs. Richard  
**Phone:** 503-644-3745 (Main Number)  
**E-mail:** [JBrunecz@valleycatholic.org](mailto:JBrunecz@valleycatholic.org); [Erichard@valleycatholic.org](mailto:Erichard@valleycatholic.org)

### **Required textbooks:**

*Algebra, Concepts and Applications* (McGraw Hill—Glencoe, 2006)

### **Supplemental programs/materials:**

All students will take the AMC8 test in the fall. Interested students are welcome to participate in Mathcounts, Pentagames, and the PCC Math Contest.

### **Course Description:**

This course covers the material of first-year algebra. Students who master the material of the course will be prepared to challenge Algebra I in high school. If mastery is not achieved, students should retake Algebra I as freshmen in high school.

### **Class Scope and Sequence**

#### **Algebra Basics**

- Expressions, equations, order of operations
- Properties of addition and multiplication
- Operations with integers and rational numbers

#### **Solving Equations**

- Single-step and multi-step equations
- Equations with absolute value
- Equations with variables on both sides

#### **Functions and Graphs**

- Definition of function
- Graphing linear relations
- Writing linear equations in various forms

#### **Powers and Roots**

- Rules for operations with monomials
- Negative exponents
- Square roots and the Pythagorean Theorem

#### **Polynomials**

- Basic operations on polynomials
- Special products
- Factoring polynomials

#### **Quadratic Functions**

- Graphing quadratic functions
- Radical expressions
- Solving quadratics by completing the square
- Solving quadratics by using the Quadratic Formula

#### **Systems of Equations**

- Graphing systems of linear equations
- Solving systems using substitution and elimination
- Solving systems of linear inequalities



# Algebra One – Honors

Eighth Grade

**Math  
Department  
2009-2010**

**Teacher:** Kipp Johnson  
**Phone:** 503-644-3745 (Main Number)  
**E-mail:** KJohnson@valleycatholic.org

## Required textbooks:

*Elementary and Intermediate Algebra*, Thomson/Brooks-Cole

## Supplemental programs/materials:

Students will practice for the AMC8 exam, the Mathcounts competition, and the PCC Math Contest. They will be exposed to a variety of non-routine problems, to help them develop their problem-solving skills.

## Course Description:

This course covers all the material traditionally taught in a first-year algebra course, and introduces some of the concepts and computational skills usually seen in Algebra II. Some topics not covered in standard textbooks will be discussed. Students will also practice on competitive math exams (like the AMC8 and Mathcounts exams). The course is designed for motivated students with high mathematical ability.

## Class Scope and Sequence

### Basics

- Numeric and algebraic expressions
- Properties of the four operations
- Operations on real numbers

### Equations and Inequalities

- Solving linear equations
- Inequalities and compound inequalities
- Applied problems (interest, mixtures, rates, etc.)
- Problem solving practice

### Coordinate Geometry

- Graphing linear equations
- Four forms of a linear equation
- Solving linear systems (graphing, substitution, elimination, Cramer's Rule)

### Polynomials

- Operations on monomials and polynomials
- Zero/negative exponents
- Factoring general polynomials
- Long division of polynomials and synthetic division

### Rational Expressions

- Simplifying rational expressions
- Operations on rational expressions
- Equations with rational expressions

### Exponents and Radicals

- Simplifying and combining radicals
- Operations on radicals
- Radical Equations

### Quadratic Equations and Inequalities

- Completing the square
- The quadratic formula
- Complex numbers
- Graphing quadratic equations



# Church History

## Eighth Grade

**Religion  
Department  
2009-2010**

**Teacher:** Elizabeth Richard  
**Phone:** 503-644-3745 (Main Number)  
**E-mail:** Erichard@valleycatholic.org

**Required Textbooks:**

*Blest Are We: The Story of Our Church*, RCL Benziger, 2008  
*Project Genesis: The Truth Will Set You Free*, Leaflet Missal Company, 1996  
*The New American Bible*

**Supplemental Programs/Materials:**

*Second Step Program: Stepping Ahead*, Committee for Children, 2008

**Course Description:**

This class presents a chronological narrative of the Catholic Church from the appointment of St. Peter to the present using the Bible and the *Blest Are We* textbook. It also includes a discussion of peer relationships through *Second Step* and moral Christian living through *Project Genesis*. Major projects and exams may include Unit exams and think-tac-toe projects, Maryville Nursing Home project, and semester exams.

**Class Scope and Sequence:**

	Blest Are We	Second Step	Project Genesis	Catholic Traditions	Honoring Mary	Maryville Project
<b>Unit One:</b>	The Marks of the Church from the Beginning	Empathy and Communication	N/A	Prayer, Liturgical Year	Mary as the Model Disciple	
<b>Unit Two:</b>	The Growth of Christendom	Bullying Prevention and Emotion Management	N/A	Prayer, Advent, Church Hierarchy, Saints	Immaculate Conception, Rosary	
<b>Unit Three:</b>	An Age of Faith and Beauty	Goal Setting and Abuse Prevention	N/A	Prayer, Novenas, Saints, Religious Orders	Mary as a guide and mother for us	
<b>Unit Four:</b>	Reason, Rebellion, and Reform	N/A	Theology, Health	Prayer, Lent, Sacraments, Saints	Rosary, Mary's role in the Passion of Christ	
<b>Unit Five:</b>	Returning to the Roots of Christianity	N/A	Decision Making, Relationships	Prayer, What it means to be Catholic today	Rosary, Feast days of Mary	

\* In addition to the above coursework for Religion, the students will be attending Mass and prayer services at least twice a month.



# Life Science

Eighth Grade

**Science  
Department  
2009-2010**

**Teacher:** June Poling  
**Phone:** 503-644-3745 (Main Number)  
**E-mail:** jpoling@valleycatholic.org

## Required textbooks:

*Life Science*, Prentice Hall, 2009

## Supplemental programs/materials:

VCMS science fair 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners are invited to attend the Northwest Science Expo and VCMS Catholic Schools science fairs. Students are also encouraged to become involved in the after school science club. Club students compete in the Bonneville Power Administration Middle School Science Bowl in January.

## Course Description:

Students in 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science will be introduced to, review, or master concepts in the life sciences. This course emphasizes critical thinking and problem-solving skills, as well as laboratory experience. Students will master researching scientific information found in the library and on the Internet. They will be required to present the results of a scientific experiment of their own creation during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. This project will be entered in the February VCMS Science Fair.

## Class Scope and Sequence

### Science Literacy

- Lab safety
- Scientific method
- Experimental design

### Labs

- Lab Safety Poster

### Virology

- Virus Structure and Function
- Basic immunology

### Labs

- CDC infomercial or poster

### Evolution

- History of evolution
- Mechanisms of evolution

### Labs

- Nature at Work
- Field Trip to Tualatin National Wildlife Refuge

### Cell Biology

- Biochemistry
- Cell organelles
- Cell processes and energy
- Cell division

### Labs

- Microscope
- Onion Skin
- Elodea Leaf
- Animal Cell
- Diffusion
- Egg-speriment
- Gases in Balance – photosynthesis/respiration
- Mitosis

### Ethics – cross curricular project with social studies

- Biomedical and Agricultural Ethics project

### Labs

- Field Trip to Oregon National Primate Research Center

### Genetics

- Mendelian genetics
- Human genetics
- Modern genetics

### Labs

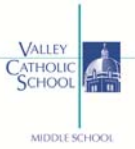
- Take a class survey
- Pedigree – Human Inheritance
- Family puzzles

### Animal Studies

- Invertebrate comparative physiology
- Invertebrate animal project

### Labs

Animal Research/Experimentation



# United States History

## Eighth Grade

**Social Studies  
Department  
2009-2010**

**Teacher:** Courtney Ferrari  
**Phone:** 503-644-3745 (Main Number)  
**E-mail:** cferrari@valleycatholic.org

### Required Textbooks:

*ABC-CLIO Online Databases: US History & American Geography*

### Supplemental Programs/Materials:

*Student Atlas, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition – Dorling Kindersley (DK)*

### Course Description:

This course presents a broad scope of American history with an emphasis on geography and civics. The content addresses the growth of individual liberties in the United States from colonial self-government to the expansion of rights to African-Americans, women and Native Americans. Students focus on the role of government in different units: the executive branch in Native American history, the judicial branch in African American history, and the legislative branch in 20<sup>th</sup> century Science & Ethics. Students will be assigned regular research assignments as well as a cross-curricular, year-end research project that culminates in a mock legislative hearing.

### Class Scope and Sequence:

#### Trans-Atlantic trade

- North America to 1500  
Geography & culture areas of North & South America  
Inca & Aztec Civilization
- Europe to 1500  
Rise of nation states  
Exploration
- Africa to 1500  
Empires & trade

#### Colonial Period (17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> centuries)

- Development of colonial society
- Relations with Native Americans
- Introduction of African slavery
- Interaction of European powers in the Americas
- Geography & people of the 13 colonies

#### Revolutionary Period (1763-1789)

- Colonial disputes with England
- Enlightenment philosophy and the Constitution
- Development of American democracy

#### The Constitution and American Government

- Branches of government
- Separation of powers
- Checks and balances

#### 19<sup>th</sup> century American History

- Geography of the West
- American expansion & Indian wars
- The rise of plantation slavery
- Social reform movements: public education, women's suffrage, abolition
- Mexican American War
- Civil War and Reconstruction

#### Early 20<sup>th</sup> century

- Jim Crow & the Civil Rights era
- Reservation system, Indian schools
- Termination and restoration
- Women in society
- Technological advances

#### Science and ethics in the 20<sup>th</sup> century (a cross-curricular project with the science department)

- Scientific advances in & government regulation of medicine and agriculture
- Small-group research
- Simulated Congressional hearing